

**NCHS sweeps Airline, Chiefs win district title**

**BOSSIER CITY, La.** - The Natchitoches Central Chiefs and Lady Chiefs swept the Airline Vikings and Lady Vikings Friday night in the district 1-5A basketball action at AHS with the Lady Chiefs picking a 59-44 victory and the Chiefs winning the district title with a 68-57 win.

The Lady Chiefs (26-4, 5-3 in 1-5A) led 30-20 and put the game away in the third quarter taking a 51-30 lead at the end of the third quarter. The Lady Vikings (17-8, 2-6 in 1-5A) would battle back and cut the lead to 12, 56-44, with 1:33 to go but that was as close as they got.

The Lady Chiefs were led by Annalise Newton with 26 points and 12 rebounds. Akeelah Wade added 16 points and eight rebounds while Jordan McDaniel had nine points and 10 rebounds.

The Chiefs (21-5, 7-1 in 1-5A) were in a battle as they were tied with the Vikings (11-18, 3-5 in 1-5A) at 54-54 with 5:20 left in the game. However, NCHS finished the game on a 14-3 run led by Jaden Braden and JD Demery who scored 12 of the final 14 points for the Chiefs.

Braden finished with 26 points while Demery had 16 points and 11 rebounds. Harold Remo chipped in with 10 as the Chiefs claimed the district title.

NCHS finished 22-for-47 from the field for 45 percent and outrebounded the Vikings 33-22.

Next up, the Lady Chiefs will face Calvin (26-6) Saturday on the at 2 p.m. The Chiefs will take Oak Hill (18-15) Tuesday afternoon at 5:30 p.m.

With the playoffs looming, the Lady Chiefs entered Friday ranked number seven in the Division I non-select power rankings. NCHS is slated to host a first-round game Thursday.